



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 25YN081

Project Name: The “Copernicus Expansion Missions Sea Ice Experiment (CEMSIE)” project
Proponent Name: University of Calgary
Project Type: Research Region: Kitikmeot Region
Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 126247
Comment Deadline: **December 8, 2025**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Copernicus Expansion Missions Sea Ice Experiment (CEMSIE)” project is located within the Kitikmeot region, approximately 15-20 kilometres (km) from Cambridge Bay. The Proponent intends to improve satellite measurements of Arctic first-year sea ice and snow by collecting on-ice and airborne data. The project seeks to enhance climate monitoring, weather forecasting, and northern community safety while integrating Indigenous and local knowledge and producing an open reference dataset for future research. The program is proposed to take place from March 2026 to May 2026. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Airborne missions: Twin Otter or similar fixed-wing aircraft
- Occasional helicopter use for regional sampling
- Temporary, seasonal setup on landfast FYI ~15 km SW of Cambridge Bay
- In-Situ Snow and Sea Ice Data Collection

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **25YN081** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via www.nirb.ca. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at info@nirb.ca or via fax to **(867) 983-2594**.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Viren Nasit, Senior Impact Assessment toll-free at (867) 983-4603 or vnasit@nirb.ca.